



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
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JUL 29 2003

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File #: 1040.2
Document #: 43289

Mr. Jeff Morales, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Federal Resources Office, Room 3500
For Kris Balaji, Federal Programming

Dear Mr. Morales:

SUBJECT: SANDAG 2002/03-2004/05 FTIP/FSTIP AMENDMENT NO. 11

We received your letter dated June 27, 2003, requesting the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) approve California's federally mandated statewide transportation improvement program (STIP) as amended by Amendment No. 11 to the San Diego Association of Governments' (SANDAG) metropolitan transportation improvement program (TIP). Pursuant to the delegation of authority by the SANDAG Board of Directors, the SANDAG Transportation Committee approved Resolution No. 2003-40 on June 20, 2003, amending the TIP and reaffirming the conformity of the TIP with the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP) for air quality.

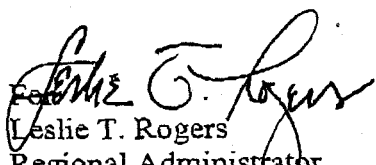
We have completed our review of Amendment No. 11 to SANDAG's 2002/03-2006/07 TIP and accept those modifications proposed in the SANDAG Amendment for projects listed in the triennial element (i.e. 2002/03-2004/05) of California's STIP. Information provided by SANDAG concerning modifications to project listings in the "additional years" (i.e., 2005/06 and 2006/07) of the SANDAG metropolitan TIP are considered by the FHWA and FTA only as informational pursuant to 23 CFR 450.216(a)(2). We find that the SANDAG metropolitan TIP, including Amendment No. 11, was developed through a continuing, cooperative and comprehensive transportation planning process in accord with the metropolitan transportation planning provisions of 23 USC §134 and 49 USC Chapter 53.

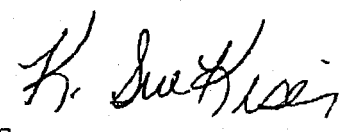
We have determined that the SANDAG 2002/03-2006/07 FTIP, including the modifications adopted as part of Amendment No. 11, conforms to the applicable SIP in accordance with the provisions of 40 CFR parts 51 and 93; the January 2, 2002, *Revised Guidance for Implementing the March 1999 Circuit Court Decision Affecting Transportation Conformity*; and the Environmental Protection Agency's May 14, 1999, *Conformity Guidance on Implementation of March 2, 1999 Conformity Court Decision*. This joint FHWA/FTA air quality conformity determination for the amended SANDAG TIP is required by Section 93.104 of the Environmental Protection Agency's August 15, 1997, *Transportation Conformity Rule*.

Amendments: Flexibility and Streamlining: Final Rule, 40 CFR Part 51 and 93 (Transportation Conformity Rule) and the FHWA/FTA Metropolitan Planning Rule, 23 CFR Part 450. Based on our review, we find that the projects listed for implementation in SANDAG's amended TIP have been included in the regional emissions analysis for the SANDAG 2030 Regional Transportation Plan (2030 RTP) and that the design concept and scope for the projects are adequately detailed to determine the contribution to the transportation plan's regional emissions at the time of the conformity determination for the 2030 RTP. We find that the design concept, scope and implementation schedules of the projects listed in the SANDAG TIP are not significantly different from that described in the 2030 RTP. This conformity finding has been coordinated with the regional office of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

This approval is provided with the understanding that Federal Transit Administration funding approval on individual projects contained the FSTIP are subject to grantees meeting all necessary FTA administrative requirements.

Sincerely,


For
Leslie T. Rogers
Regional Administrator
Federal Transit Administration


For
Gary N. Hamby
Division Administrator
Federal Highway Administration